

Application No.: 09/757,721  
Filing Date: January 10, 2001  
Page: 2

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A transparent biaxially oriented polyester film comprising: at least one flame retardant which is soluble in polyester, where said at least one flame retardant, as a dispersed component of a masterbatch, is fed directly by an extruder during production of the film, wherein said masterbatch had previously been dried by gradual heating at subatmospheric pressure, with stirring; a polyester; and wherein said transparent polyester film does not embrittle when exposed to temperatures of 100°C for 100 hours, said film thus further comprising predried and/or precrystallized masterbatch carrier polymer.

2. (Previously Presented) The polyester film as claimed in claim 1, wherein the masterbatch further comprises a hydrolysis stabilizer.

3. (Previously Presented) The polyester film as claimed in claim 1, wherein the masterbatch is further dried, with stirring, at a constant elevated temperature, followed by further drying at constant elevated temperatures and subatmospheric pressures.

4. (Original) The polyester film as claimed in claim 1, wherein the flame retardant is selected from one or more organic phosphorus compounds.

5. (Original) The polyester film as claimed in claim 2, wherein the hydrolysis stabilizer is selected from the group consisting of phenolic hydrolysis stabilizers, alkali metal/alkaline earth metal stearates and/or alkali metal/alkaline earth metal carbonates.

Application No.: 09/757,721  
Filing Date: January 10, 2001  
Page: 3

6. (Original) The polyester film as claimed in claim 1, wherein the film comprises from 0.5 to 30.0% by weight of flame retardant.

7. (Original) The polyester film as claimed in claim 2, wherein the film comprises from 0.1 to 1.0% by weight of hydrolysis stabilizer.

8. (Original) The polyester film as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the film has two or more layers and comprises a base layer and at least one outer layer.

9. (Original) The polyester film as claimed in claim 8, wherein the flame retardant is present in the outer layer.

10. (Original) The polyester film as claimed in claim 9, wherein from 0.5 to 30% by weight (based on the weight of the outer layer) of the flame retardant is present in the outer layer.

11. (Original) The polyester film as claimed in claim 8, wherein the hydrolysis stabilizer is present in the outer layer.

12. (Original) The polyester film as claimed in claim 11, wherein from 0.1 to 1.0% by weight (based on the weight of the respective outer layer) of the hydrolysis stabilizer is present in the outer layer.

13. (Original) The polyester film as claimed in claim 1, wherein the film comprises recycled material.

14. (Original) The polyester film as claimed in claim 1, wherein the film has a surface gloss, measured according to DIN 67530 (measurement angle 20°), of greater than 100.

Application No.: 09/757,721  
Filing Date: January 10, 2001  
Page: 4

15. (Original) The polyester film as claimed in claim 1, wherein the film has a luminous transmittance L, measured according to ASTM D 1003, of more than 80%.

16. (Original) The polyester film as claimed in claim 1, wherein the haze of the film, measured according to ASTM D 1003, is less than 20%.

17. (Original) The polyester film as claimed in claim 1, wherein the film has a Yellowness Index of < 10.

18. (New) A transparent biaxially oriented film comprising polyester and at least one flame retardant, said flame retardant present in an amount ranging from 0.5 to 30% by weight, said flame retardant incorporated as a predried and/or precrystallized masterbatch, said film thus further comprising predried and/or precrystallized masterbatch carrier polymer,

wherein said film has a thickness ranging from 5 to 300 microns and complies with the requirements for construction material classes B2 and B1 to DIN 4102.

19. (New) A transparent biaxially oriented film comprising polyester consisting essentially of polyethylene terephthalate and at least one flame retardant, said flame retardant incorporated as a predried and/or precrystallized masterbatch, said film thus further comprising predried and/or precrystallized masterbatch carrier polymer,

wherein said transparent film does not embrittle when exposed to temperatures of 100°C for 100 hours